

## CLAIMS

- 1 1. An electronic device with a keypad on a substantially planar surface  
2 comprising:  
3 a first key with  
4 an indented edge in the substantially planar surface,  
5 a first protruded edge in the substantially planar surface,  
6 a first alphanumeric label associated with the first key, and  
7 a second alphanumeric label associated with the first protruded edge  
8 of the first key;  
9 a second key with a protruded edge in the substantially planar surface  
10 adjacent to the indented edge of the first key; and  
11 a third key with an indented edge in the substantially planar surface  
12 adjacent to the first protruded edge of the first key.
- 1 2. An electronic device according to claim 1 wherein the first key further  
2 comprises:  
3 a second protruded edge in the substantially planar surface;  
4 a third protruded edge in the substantially planar surface; and  
5 an angle formed by lines between a center of the first protruded edge and  
6 centers of the second protruded edge and the third protruded edge is greater than  
7 approximately forty-five degrees.
- 1 3. An electronic device according to claim 2 wherein the angle is less than  
2 approximately ninety degrees.
- 1 4. An electronic device according to claim 1 further comprising:  
2 a priority routine that enters a character associated with the first  
3 alphanumeric label when the first key is held for less than a first toggle period.

- 1 5. An electronic device according to claim 4 wherein the first alphanumeric  
2 label represents a number.
- 1 6. An electronic device according to claim 4 wherein the priority routine  
2 enters a character associated with the second alphanumeric label when the first  
3 key is held for more than the first toggle period.
- 1 7. An electronic device according to claim 6 wherein the second alphanumeric  
2 label represents a non-numeric character.
- 1 8. An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the second alphanumeric  
2 label represents a letter.
- 1 9. An electronic device according to claim 7 wherein the second alphanumeric  
2 label represents a space.
- 1 10. An electronic device according to claim 4 wherein the priority routine  
2 enters a character associated with the second alphanumeric label when the first  
3 key is held for less than a second toggle period that is greater than the first toggle  
4 period.
- 1 11. An electronic device according to claim 10 wherein the priority routine  
2 enters a character associated with a third alphanumeric label when the first key is  
3 held for more than the second toggle period.

- 1 12. A keypad, on a surface having a substantially planar region, comprising:  
2 a first key with  
3 an indented edge in the substantially planar region,  
4 a first protruded edge in the substantially planar region,  
5 a first alphanumeric label associated with the first key, and  
6 a second alphanumeric label associated with the first protruded edge  
7 of the first key;  
8 a second key with a protruded edge in the substantially planar region  
9 proximate to the indented edge of the first key; and  
10 a third key with an indented edge in the substantially planar region  
11 proximate to the first protruded edge of the first key.
- 1 13. A keypad according to claim 12 wherein the first key further comprises:  
2 a second protruded edge in the substantially planar region;  
3 a third protruded edge in the substantially planar region; and  
4 an angle formed by lines between a center of the first protruded edge and  
5 centers of the second protruded edge and the third protruded edge is greater than  
6 approximately forty-five degrees.
- 1 14. A keypad according to claim 13 wherein the angle is less than  
2 approximately ninety degrees.
- 1 15. A keypad according to claim 13 further comprising:  
2 a fourth key with an indented edge in the substantially planar region  
3 proximate to the second protruded edge of the first key.
- 1 16. A keypad according to claim 15 wherein the first key, the second key, the  
2 third key, and the fourth key have approximately the same shape.
- 1 17. A keypad according to claim 12 wherein the first key, the second key, and  
2 the third key have approximately the same shape.

- 1 18. A keypad according to claim 12 comprising:  
2 a first label associated with the first key.
- 1 19. A keypad according to claim 18 wherein the first label represents a numeric  
2 character.
- 1 20. A keypad according to claim 18 further comprising:  
2 a second label associated with the first key.
- 1 21. A keypad according to claim 20 wherein the second label represents a non-  
2 numeric character.